

DOCKET NO.: PHRM0027-101/00159.US1
SERIAL NO.: 09/738,022

PATENT
FILED: December 15, 2000

REMARKS

A "Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment" was mailed by the Office on May 10, 2004 in response to Applicants' "Amendment and Response" (hereinafter "Amendment") filed on January 31, 2003. The Notice indicated that the Amendment was considered non-compliant "because it failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003 ..." and that "[o]nly the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire 'Amendments to the claims' section of applicant's amendment document must be resubmitted.

Applicants note that the Amendment alleged to be non-compliant was filed with the Office on January 31, 2003, *before* the effective date of 37 CFR 1.121 (amended on June 30, 2003). Accordingly, the requirements of amended rule 37 CFR 1.121 should not apply to Applicants' January 31, 2003 amendment. However, in an attempt to expedite prosecution of the pending claims to allowance, Applicants provide herein the requested "Amendments to the claims" section which is fully in compliance with amended rule 37 CFR 1.121.

Conclusion

Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore earnestly solicited. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (215) 665-6904 to clarify any unresolved issues raised by this response.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 27, 2004

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